

DUAL CREDIT

Benefits:

David T. Conley writes in *College and Career Ready* that there are several advantages to students in taking dual-credit courses (p. 98).

1. Students earn valuable course credit and possibly reduce the number of credits required to earn a bachelor's degree.
2. The courses provide students with firsthand experience on college expectations and the structure of college course work.
3. Taking these courses encourages students' beliefs in their ability to succeed in college.

Results:

Spring 2017 Trigg County High School:

- 44% of seniors took one or more dual-credit courses.
- 30% of juniors took one or more dual-credit courses.

Keys:

- **10th graders need to take the ACT**
 - We have a partnership with our local Rotary Club, where they pay for 10th graders to take the exam
 - 72% of '16/17 sophomores took the ACT through this partnership
- **Teach students how to determine what classes to take**
 - We created a video to help them figure out which classes would be most beneficial (www.trigg.kyschools.us)
- **Use all available delivery methods**
 - Some classes are taught by high school teachers with the credentials to teach college courses (partnership through community college)
 - Other courses are online
 - Some courses are taught by a university professor who comes to our campus
- **Show the affordability**
 - Students are eligible to receive a dual-credit scholarship for two courses taken during their HS career. KHEAA administers this.
 - Our local Rotary Club reimburses up to \$210 per year for students who have met all CPE ACT benchmarks.
 - The cost for dual-credit courses is 1/3 of the cost once they are in college.

ADVISING

How we do it:

- Meet with every senior one-on-one during October and early November. (This was easier with Gear Up staff help.)
- Meeting in Oct. and early Nov. allows you to talk with them about the FAFSA if they haven't done it.
- We made a checklist for the meeting to ensure we discussed with every student: plans after high school, college admissions, college costs, scholarships, financial aid, KEES \$, college & career ready benchmarks, etc.
- We have a one-week Intersession in the spring, where every senior does job shadowing. These meetings also provided a great opportunity to brainstorm ideas for their shadowing. (Students set that up.)
- If you have an advising program at your school, share with the student's advisor any "to do" items they have from the mtg.

Results:

- 77.6% of 2017 grads. completed the FAFSA
- Students learned about programs they otherwise didn't know about at colleges.
- Students were able to compare costs for two or more colleges to determine what was right for them.
- Students learned about scholarship and financial aid options.

SENIOR SEMINAR

How we do it:

- Half day event in October or early November with all seniors
- Paying for College presentation by KHEAA
- Three small group (round table) discussions with:
 - College representatives
 - Professionals from their career field of interest
 - Students are scheduled into these based on interest
- Lunch (sponsored by community partner)
- Held off-site

Student Comments:

Was this event helpful?

- “Yes it's good to talk to people who are in your career.”
- “Yes, because it offered new opportunities and a lot of advice.”
- “Definitely! It has informed me of so much on what I have to have in order to go to college.”
- “Yes. I learned a lot and also it put my butt into gear to start getting ready. Very beneficial! I got every aspect given to me today. I'm very grateful.”
- “Yes, I guarantee everyone learned something from someone.”
- “Yes, all the people I have talked to today provided information for my future that I find valuable.”
- “Absolutely best opportunity through the school senior year.”

Volunteer Comments:

- “Great program!”
- “Great Seminar! Thank you for inviting us.”
- “I know putting all of this together is a lot of hard work & dedication. You are appreciated...even though you may not get told that. Students are lucky to have this event. “
- “Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this!”
- “I like how students are able to meet with their interested groups &/or colleges all in one location.”

COLLEGE VISITS

How we do it:

- 3rd - 8th graders go on a college visit each year
- 3rd, 4th and 5th visit a community college
- 6th, 7th and 8th visit a 4-year university

Benefits:

- Many of our students would be first time college students, visiting these campuses at an early age helps to take some of the fear out of going to college.
- It helps students be able to see themselves on a college campus.
- Students learn about the programs available at the different colleges and universities.

Keys:

- Start planning early. Dates quickly get filled (especially at community colleges).
- Our board shares the cost of transportation with the schools' SBDM.
- The only cost to students is lunch. (We eat at on-campus dining facilities at the universities. We take sack lunches to the community colleges.)

Cammie Evans

College & Career Counselor
Trigg County Public Schools
cammie.evans@trigg.kyschools.us
270-522-2740